

MAIN MUSEUM GALLERIES

EARLY YEARS GALLERY

The Early Years Gallery covers the history of flight from the earliest aviation legends through the early 1940s. The aircraft displayed range from the 1909 Wright Flyer to the Curtiss P-40. Over 40 aircraft are on display in this gallery. History displays cover such topics as the development of the Wright Brothers aircraft, the Mexican Punitive Expedition, World War I, Research and Development in the 1930s, and United States' preparation for World War II.

Video features include "The Forces of Flight," "World War I," and "The O-38 Recovery in Alaska."

AIR POWER GALLERY

Over 60 aircraft and missiles are on display in the Air Power Gallery. This gallery concentrates on the World War II period. The displays include examples of WWII Army Air Force pursuit aircraft and bombers continuing through the earliest U.S. jet aircraft.

History displays cover such topics as WWII European and Pacific Theaters of Operation, the birth of the United States Air Force, Research and Development in the Post-WWII era, and the growth of the USAF Major Commands (SAC, TAC and ADC).

Video features include "Tribute to Glenn Miller," "How an Atomic Bomb Works," and "B-25B Tokyo Raiders."

KOREAN WAR/VIETNAM CONFLICT GALLERY

About 20 aircraft are on display in the Korean War/Vietnam Conflict Gallery. This gallery covers the history of flight beginning with the Korean War of the early 1950s and continuing

through the Vietnam era of the 1960s and 1970s. The gallery is dominated by the massive Convair B-36J.

The North American F-86H is displayed with the fuselage skin removed to show the internal structure and component placement of a typical fighter aircraft of the post-WWII era.

SPACE GALLERY

Important stops along the United States Air Force path to space technology are presented in the Space Gallery exhibits, from the development of large and powerful rocket engines to boosters that lifted America's first and second generation aircraft into orbit and eventually the moon.

The gallery features the Apollo 15 Command Module, McDonnell Gemini Spacecraft, Mercury Spacecraft and the Martin X-24B. Visitors can learn about space suits dating from a 1958 Litton Suit to an Integrated Maneuvering Life Support System. The video featured is "Man in Space."

MODERN FLIGHT HANGAR

More than 70 aircraft and missiles are on display inside this hangar, the largest and newest indoor display area. The hangar includes aircraft from the 1940s through the 1990s. Highlights of the hangar include the F-117, XB-70, SR-71, F-15 and the latest jet prototype, the YF-22. Visitors can also enjoy the "Morphis MovieRide Theatre," which features a number of aviation adventure rides.

Video features include "Air and Sea Rescue in Vietnam" and "Project Turnkey: The Construction of Tuy Hoa Airbase." The C-124 cargo compartment is set-up as a walk-through. The F-4 and F-16 cockpits are sit-in displays.